FORM PTO-1083

PATENT

Case Docket No. NIT-329

In RE application of

A. YOSHIDA et al

Serial No.: 10/076,456

Group Art Unit:

2188

Filed: February 19, 2002

Examiner: J.M. Ross

For:

DISK ARRAY CONTROLLER COMPRISING A PLURALITY OF DISK

ARRAY CONTROLLING UNITS (As Amended)

RECEIVED

MAR 0 1 2004

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identfied application.

| Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted. |
|--|
| A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed. |

No additional fee is required. The fee has been calculated as shown below:

| | | (COL. 1) | | (6 | COL. 2) | (| COL. 3) |
|--------|------|---|-------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| | | Claims Remaining After Amendment | | P | ighest No. reviously Paid For | | Present Extra |
| Total | · | 12 | Minus | 1 | 20 | = | 0 |
| Indep. | • | 2 | Minus | ••• | 3 | = | 0 |
| C Sire | . D. | organization of A | Aultinia Da | aaadaa: | t Claima | | |

SMALL ENTITY

| SIMILE CITTITI | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------|--|
| | Rate | Additional Fee | |
| × | 9 | \$ | |
| × | 42 | \$ | |
| + | 140 | \$ | |
| | Total | \$ | |

OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY

OR

OR

| | Rate | Additional Fee | |
|---|-------|-------------------|---|
| i | × 18 | \$ | 0 |
| | × 84 | 8 | 0 |
| | + 280 | \$ | 0 |
| | Total | 8 | 0 |

If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write '0' in Col. 3.

If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write '20' in this space.

If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write '3' in this space.

The 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

| | Please | e charge my Deposit Account No. 50-1417 in the amount of \$ |
|---|--|---|
| | A che | ck in the amount of \$ is attached in payment of: |
| x | commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication dit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. | |
| | x | Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims. |
| | x | Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. |
| | x | Any Extension of Time fees that are necessary, which are hereby requested if necessary. |

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Date: February 27, 2004

Registration No.

34,663

Attorney for Applicant(s)